

## GREEN BRIDGE – BIKING HOME

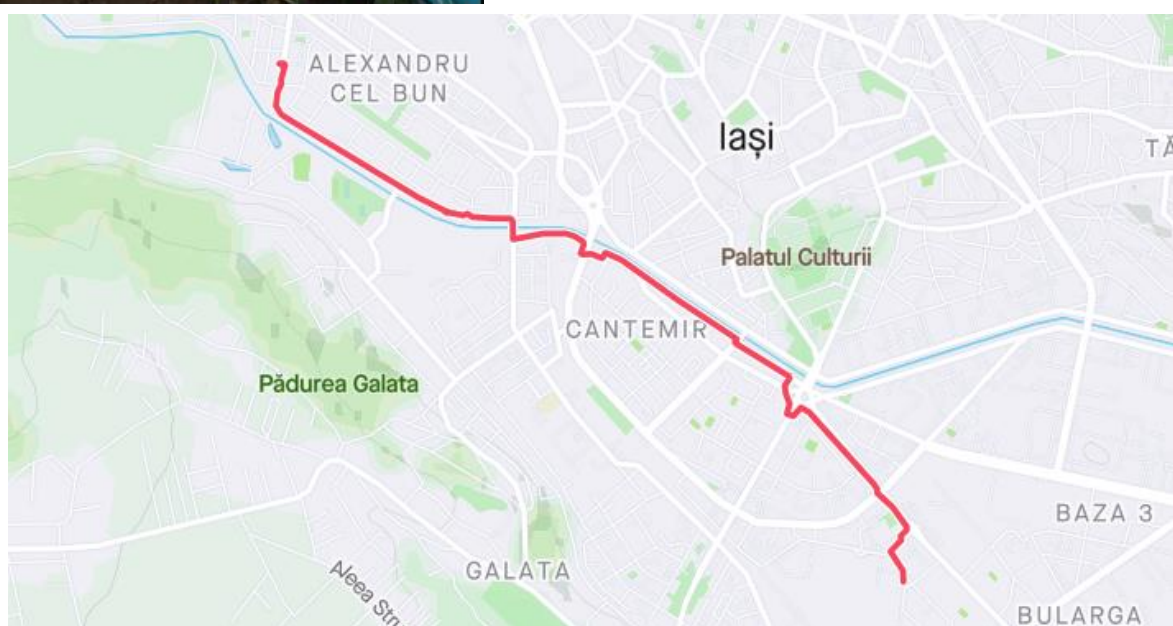


One of our project's objectives is to promote green, eco-friendly activities and attitude. But for some of us, this became a life style as a fight against pollution and nature & environment daily degradation. It is our responsibility for a greener future.

One of ASIE's board members has created a "green bridge" due to her daily biking route from home to her place of work. The route was along the Bahlui river, 5 days a week, twice a day: once in the morning and the second in the afternoon or sometimes evening, according to her schedule.

The photo on the left shows "Albăstrica" (Little Bluebonnet), the main aid and means of transport for more than two months per summer time.

Fate decided another connection with our project, Green Bridges: My biking route passes through at least 7 bridges across the Bahlui River.



The route was almost the same every day, at the beginning it differed until I established this route as the shortest and the straightest.



The sidewalk was not my friend at the beginning as the road is not so good, the field is not stable, but in time I got used to it, my bike too.



At the first bridge over Bahlui, the road leads to Arcadia Hospital, the first private hospital in Iasi and the whole Moldova area. The old iron pedestrian bridge has now a new heavy traffic bridge near it that unblocks the traffic at rush hours.

The banks of the Bahlui river are perfect for walking and during the quarantine, it was the only source of fresh air of the people living in the blocks around.







Then, another bridge connects the Alexandru cel Bun neighbourhood with Mircea cel Bun neighbourhood and under it it happens another important connection, of two small rivers. Bahlui river receives an affluent and heads towards east.



After crossing the pedestrian part of this bridge, a green lane starts on the right this time, specially created for bikers. It's maximum 500m.





After just 100 m from the last bridge, a railway bridge with just two railways crosses over the river. You must be very careful when crossing it, it has no audio signals at all, and the railway is curved, so the train comes around the corner.



The green bike lane continues until the Podu de piatra (Rock Bridge), another important point of interest in the traffic of Iasi.





Here you lose a lot of time waiting for the green light, but the red pavement that continues the green lane allows you (technically) to ride quicker on the pavement. In fact, lasi people are not used with bikers and they walk all over the sidewalk making you hooting all the time at them.



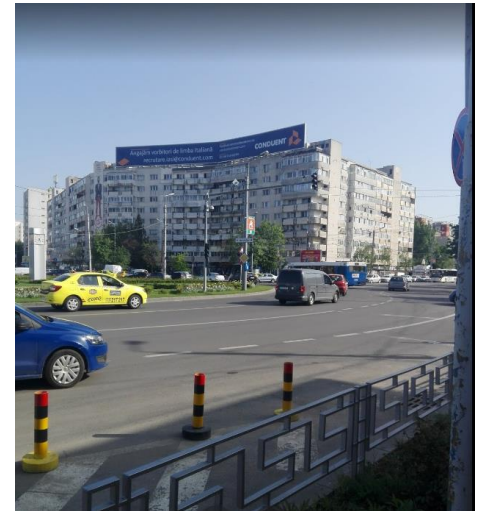
I chose to ride the right side of the Bahlui river, here represented by the big red office building.



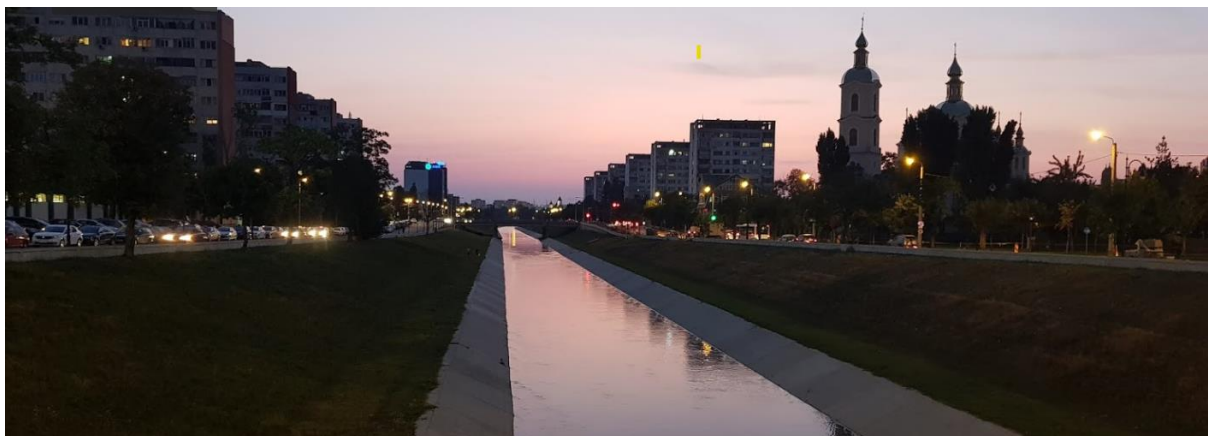


Then I get to Podu Roş (another bridge – the Red bridge area), a very busy area all day round as it connects the main areas of the city.

On the right bank, a historical landmark arises every morning and the sun shines brightly its golden roofs: The Lipovan Church, built around 1800.



The same view, but in the evening when I returned home, taken from the Podu Rosu Bridge. The Lipovan Church is on the right.





From here I keep along the Socola Boulevard and pass near Cotnari Restaurant, former Tesatura crossing, the House of the Unions, then turn right and left until I get to the LTMA Highschool, my place of work.



The whole route has maximum 5 km done daily in 25-30 min, according to the traffic light waiting time, or pedestrians in front of me or any other event on the way. The pictures were taken in different moments of the day, either when going to work or returning home. Biking makes me happy, gives enough endorphins for a day, saves the environment, it makes me be fit.

The Strava app has calculated my speed, max 38.5 and avg 11.6 km/h



and elevation.

All in all, I love riding my bike and I wanted to share with you all the testimonials of my daily journey.

